

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 16, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 4

Introduced by Assembly Member Benoit

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Anderson, Berryhill, Cook, De Leon, DeVore, Fuller, Garcia, Horton, Huff, Jeffries, Maze, Mullin, Portantino, Sharon Runner, Ruskin, Silva, Soto, Spitzer, and Walters)

(Coauthors: Senators Battin, Cogdill, Cox, Dutton, Harman, Romero, Runner, Wiggins, and Wyland)

December 18, 2006

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 4—Relative to the Esperanza Firefighters Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 4, as amended, Benoit. Esperanza Firefighters Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate State Highway Route 243 as the Esperanza Firefighters Memorial Highway. The measure also would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing that special designation; and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, On October 21, 2006, at 1:12 a.m., a wildfire
- 2 known as the Esperanza Fire; began at the Esperanza and San
- 3 Gorgonio Wash in Riverside County and 40,200 acres burned; and

1 WHEREAS, Five heroic firefighters of Engine Company #57,
2 Mark Loutzenhiser, Daniel Hoover-Najera, Jason McKay, Jess
3 McLean, and Pablo Cerda, fought valorously to contain the ~~fires~~
4 *fire* while protecting lives and property; and

5 WHEREAS, While unselfishly serving their community with
6 great honor and dedication, on October 26, 2006, these five
7 firefighters were overrun by the flames of the Esperanza Fire; and

8 WHEREAS, The untimely death of these five firefighters in the
9 pursuit of the highest ideals of public safety has brought immense
10 sorrow and loss to the people of the local community and the state
11 as well as the countless individuals whose lives they touched; and

12 WHEREAS, These brave firefighters leave behind families and
13 friends with loving memories of their unselfish and heroic deeds;
14 now, therefore, be it

15 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
16 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates State
17 Highway Route 243 as the “Esperanza Firefighters Memorial
18 Highway” in memory of the firefighters of Engine Company #57
19 who lost their lives; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
21 to determine the cost of appropriate signs for State Highway Route
22 243, consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway
23 system, showing this special designation; and, upon receiving
24 donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost, to
25 erect those signs; and be it further

26 *Resolved*, That the Legislature also proposes a memorial to be
27 erected at one of the turnouts overlooking the valley below with
28 a plaque honoring these five brave firefighters. This memorial is
29 to be funded by private donations and organizations dedicated to
30 honoring these true heroes; and be it further

31 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
32 of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
33 author for appropriate distribution.